

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of generating an information disclosure statement ("IDS"), the method comprising:

~~receiving a load signal transmitted from a client system to a remote server system;~~

~~loading an electronic document that contains reference information to be disclosed to a patent office from a first database external to the remote server system to a second database on the remote server system, the reference information including IDS information;~~

~~associating the electronic document with one or more patent cases on the remote server system; and~~

~~receiving a create signal from the client system on the remote server system, the remote server system associating the IDS information with an electronic invention disclosure statement for a first patent case of the one or more patent cases in response to the create signal.~~

receiving, at a data processing system comprising a first database, a signal from a client system, the signal indicating that a user has identified an electronic document containing reference information to be disclosed to a patent office, the reference information comprising a set of IDS information that can be used to create an IDS for disclosing the electronic document to an official patent office;

in response to the signal, accessing the electronic document at a second database external to the data processing system;

loading into the first database at least a portion of the electronic document, wherein the at least a portion of the electronic document comprises the IDS information;

accessing an electronic IDS corresponding to a patent application; and
adding the IDS information to the electronic IDS.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the electronic document includes a plurality of fields for storing the IDS information, and wherein adding the IDS information to the electronic IDS comprises extracting ~~wherein, in response to the create signal, the remote server system extracts~~ the IDS information from each of the plurality of fields and storing stores the IDS information in a corresponding plurality of fields in the electronic IDS information disclosure statement.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising wherein ~~associating the electronic document with one or more patent documents comprises:~~
storing a reference link to the electronic document ~~documents~~ in a reference table;
storing a reference to each of the one or more patent cases in a case number table; and
linking the reference link in the reference table to each of the references to ~~each~~ of the one or more patent cases ~~to the reference link~~ in the case number reference table.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein adding associating the IDS information to the electronic IDS comprises includes storing the IDS information in the electronic IDS information disclosure statement.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising extracting the IDS information from the reference information ~~in response to the create signal~~.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the IDS information is extracted from the reference information automatically in response to the signal.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a create prompt to the user for generating the create signal.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the create prompt comprises an electronic button.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the second first database is coupled to the remote server system over a computer network.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing access to the electronic IDS information disclosure statement to multiple users over a network.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising electronically transmitting the electronic IDS information disclosure statement to a patent office.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
receiving a second signal indicating that a patent application corresponding to the electronic information disclosure statement is being electronically filed in a patent office; and
electronically transmitting the IDS information disclosure statement to the patent office contemporaneously with the patent application.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the electronic document is an electronic version of a United States Patent.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the electronic document is an electronic version of a foreign patent document.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the electronic document is an electronic version of a publication.
16. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of generating an information disclosure statement ("IDS"), the method comprising:
~~receiving a load signal transmitted from a client system to a remote server system;~~

~~loading one or more electronic documents that contain reference information to be disclosed to a patent office into a database under control of a first server system, the electronic documents being loaded from a source external to the first server system and the reference information including IDS information;~~

~~storing one or more reference links to the one or more electronic documents in a reference table;~~

receiving, at a data processing system comprising a first database, a signal from a client system, the signal indicating that a user has identified an electronic document containing reference information to be disclosed to a patent office, the reference information comprising a set of IDS information that can be used to create an IDS for disclosing the electronic document to an official patent office;

in response to the signal, accessing the electronic document at a source external to the data processing system;

loading into the first database at least a portion of the electronic document, wherein the at least a portion of the electronic document comprises the IDS information;

storing, in a reference table, a reference link to the electronic document;

in a case table, linking a first case in a case table to the one or more reference link; links; and

~~receiving a signal from the client system on the first server system, the first server system associating~~ adding the IDS information for ~~each of the one or more electronic documents with~~ to an electronic ~~invention disclosure statement~~ IDS for the first case ~~in response to the signal.~~

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein ~~each of~~ the electronic ~~document documents~~ includes a plurality of fields for storing the IDS information, and wherein adding the IDS information to the electronic IDS comprises extracting wherein, in response to receiving the signal, the first server system extracts the IDS information from each of the plurality of fields and storing stores the IDS information in a corresponding plurality of fields in the electronic IDS information disclosure statement.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 further comprising:
storing one or more cited reference links to a plurality of one or more of the
electronic documents in a cited references table, the cited reference links indicating that the
plurality of being associated with electronic documents that have been cited to a patent office,
wherein ~~associating~~ the IDS information is added to the electronic IDS only if
the electronic IDS has a comprises associating the IDS information for each of the one or
~~more electronic documents that have~~ reference link links in the reference table but does do
not have a cited reference link links in the cited reference table ~~with an electronic invention~~
~~disclosure statement for the first case in response to the signal.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the electronic document
~~at least one of the one or more electronic documents~~ is an electronic version of a United
States Patent.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the electronic document
~~at least one of the one or more electronic documents~~ is an electronic version of a foreign
patent document.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the electronic document
~~at least one of the one or more electronic documents~~ is an electronic version of a publication.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein accessing an electronic IDS comprises
creating the electronic IDS.

23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein adding the IDS information to the
electronic IDS comprises storing in the electronic IDS a pointer to the IDS information.

24. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein adding the IDS information to the
electronic IDS comprises storing the IDS information in the electronic IDS.

25. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein adding the IDS information to the
electronic IDS comprises storing in the electronic IDS a pointer to the IDS information.

26. (New) The method of claim 16, further comprising creating the electronic IDS.

27. (New) A computer system for generating an electronic information disclosure statement ("IDS") the computer system comprising:

a processor;

a first database in communication with the processor; and

a computer readable medium in communication with the processor, the computer readable medium having a set of instructions executable by the processor, the set of instructions comprising:

(i) instructions to receive a signal from a client system, the signal indicating that a user has identified an electronic document containing reference information to be disclosed to a patent office, the reference information comprising a set of IDS information that can be used to create an IDS for disclosing the electronic document to an official patent office;

(ii) instructions to access, in response to the signal, the electronic document at a second database external to the computer system;

(iii) instructions to load into the first database at least a portion of the electronic document, wherein the at least a portion of the electronic document comprises the IDS information;

(iv) instructions to access an electronic IDS corresponding to a patent application; and

(v) instructions to add the IDS information to the electronic IDS.

28. (New) A computer system for generating an electronic information disclosure statement ("IDS") the computer system comprising:

a processor;

a first database in communication with the processor; and

a computer readable medium in communication with the processor, the computer readable medium having a set of instructions executable by the processor, the set of instructions comprising:

(i) instructions to receive a signal from a client system, the signal indicating that a user has identified an electronic document containing reference information to be disclosed to a patent office, the reference information comprising a set of IDS information that can be used to create an IDS for disclosing the electronic document to an official patent office;

(ii) instructions to access, in response to the signal, the electronic document at a source external to the computer system;

(iii) instructions to load into the first database at least a portion of the electronic document, wherein the at least a portion of the electronic document comprises the IDS information;

(iv) instructions to store, in a reference table, a reference link to the electronic document;

(v) instructions to link, in a case table, a first case to the reference link;
and

(vi) instructions to add the IDS information for the electronic document to an electronic IDS for the first case.

29. (New) A computer program for generating an electronic information disclosure statement ("IDS"), the computer program comprising a set of instructions executable by one or more processors in a computer system, the set of instructions comprising:

instructions to receive a signal from a client system, the signal indicating that a user has identified an electronic document containing reference information to be disclosed to a patent office, the reference information comprising a set of IDS information that can be used to create an IDS for disclosing the electronic document to an official patent office;

instructions to access, in response to the signal, the electronic document at a second database external to the computer system;

instructions to load into the first database at least a portion of the electronic document, wherein the at least a portion of the electronic document comprises the IDS information;

instructions to access an electronic IDS corresponding to a patent application; and
instructions to add the IDS information to the electronic IDS.

30. (New) A computer program for generating an electronic information disclosure statement ("IDS"), the computer program comprising a set of instructions executable by one or more processors in a computer system, the set of instructions comprising:

instructions to receive a signal from a client system, the signal indicating that a user has identified an electronic document containing reference information to be disclosed to a patent office, the reference information comprising a set of IDS information that can be used to create an IDS for disclosing the electronic document to an official patent office;

instructions to access, in response to the signal, the electronic document at a source external to the computer system;

instructions to load into the first database at least a portion of the electronic document, wherein the at least a portion of the electronic document comprises the IDS information;

instructions to store, in a reference table, a reference link to the electronic document;

instructions to link, in a case table, a first case to the reference link; and

instructions to add the IDS information for the electronic document to an electronic IDS for the first case.